

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

By this Amendment, Claims 3 and 4 are amended to depend from Claim 2. Also, this Amendment adds new Claims 6 and 7 depending from Claim 5. New Claims 6 and 7 are similar in various respects to amended Claims 3 and 4 respectively. Thus, Claims 2-7 are pending.

Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 2 and 5 are allowed. The above noted amendments place the application in condition for allowance.

As a final matter, this application claims priority to Japanese Application No. 2004-027107 filed on February 3, 2004 and Japanese Application No. 2004-115794 filed on February 9, 2004. **Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge, in the next official communication, the priority claim to these two applications and receipt of the certified copies of the priority applications.**

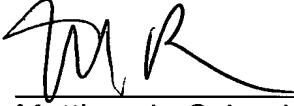
Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: April 2, 2008

By: 
Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

Michael Britton
Registration No. 47,620

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620